

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#7/c
WLawson
9/23/00

In re application of: Schwab et al

Serial No.: 08/822,397

Group No.: 2602

Filed: March 20, 1997

Examiner: N. Flynn

For: VIDEO INPUT SWITCHING AND SIGNAL PROCESSING APPARATUS

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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9-23-00

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add new claims 18-40 as follows:

Sub D1 --18. A method of automatically changing a TV channel at a viewer location, comprising the steps of:

entering, at the viewer location, information regarding a viewing preference; and

transmitting, from a broadcaster to the viewer location, a TV program including a pointer that automatically switches the TV program that the viewer is watching to another program based on the information entered by the viewer.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the TV program is a cable TV program.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein the TV program is an audio/video program transmitted in digital form.

09/26/2000 WLAWSO 00000003 071180 08822397

01 FC:202 39.00 CH
02 FC:203 180.00 CH